

Differentiated Instruction

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Inclusion

- “Best Practice” for all students...
Differentiated Instruction

Differentiation seeks to...

- “...provide varied learning options in a classroom to make curriculum and instruction the best possible fit...”

Tomlinson, 1998

Differentiating Instruction, what does it all mean?



**Since the one room school house,
educators have always had to juggle
many balls in the air. What did we find
out about us - teachers and support
staff?**

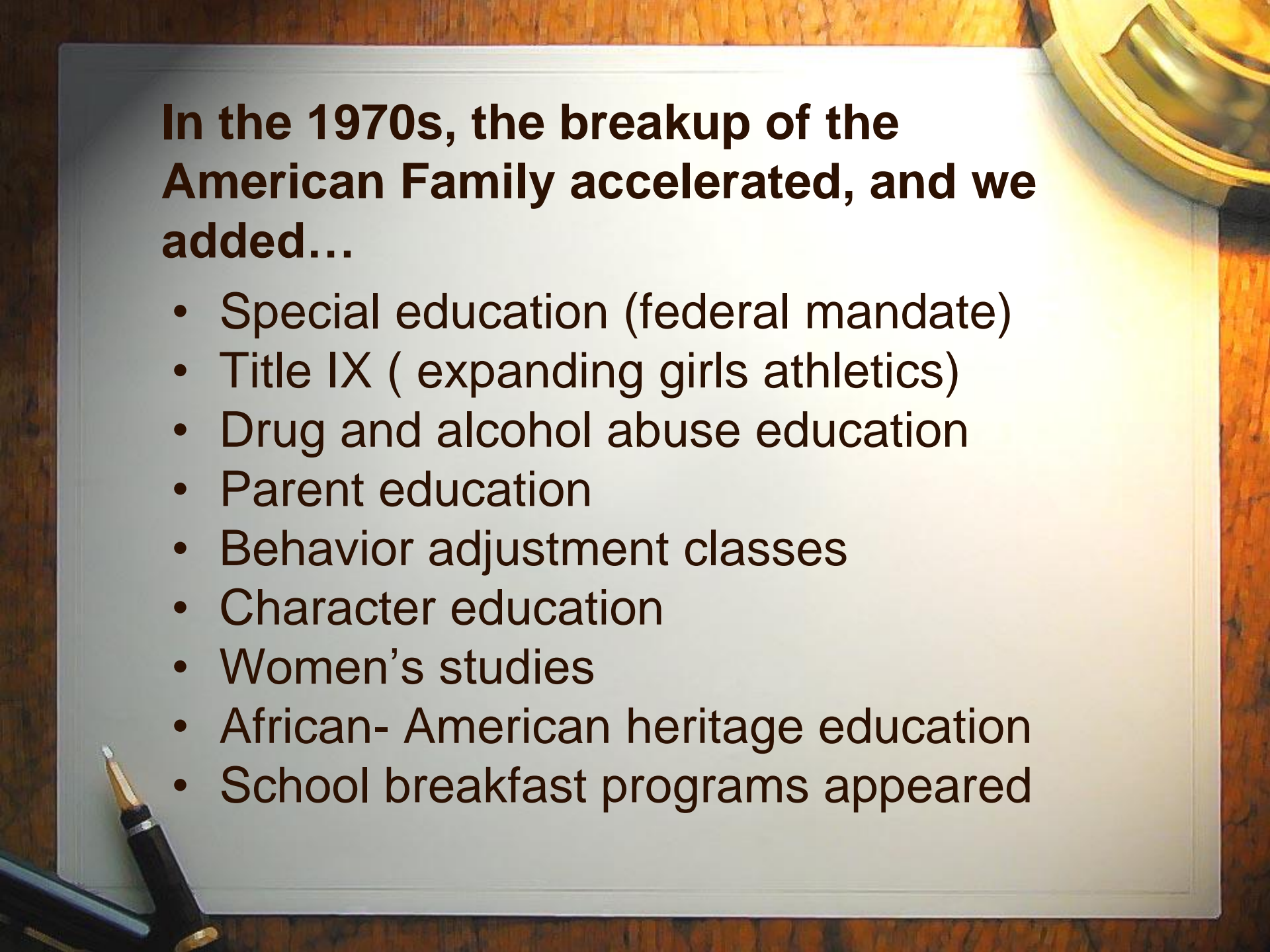
- Fun/ok
- Have a ball
- Time

**Mothers are the first
teachers of differentiated
instruction.....**



1940-1970 Public Schools have added...

- Business Education
- Art and Music
- Speech and drama
- Half day kindergarten and lunch programs appeared
- Expanded science and math education
- Safety Education
- Driver's Education
- Foreign language requirements
- Sex Education
- Advanced Placement programs
- Head Start
- Title I
- Adult Education
- Consumer education
- Career education
- Peace, leisure and recreation education

A wooden desk with a white paper, a fountain pen, and a brass object.

In the 1970s, the breakup of the American Family accelerated, and we added...

- Special education (federal mandate)
- Title IX (expanding girls athletics)
- Drug and alcohol abuse education
- Parent education
- Behavior adjustment classes
- Character education
- Women's studies
- African- American heritage education
- School breakfast programs appeared

In the 1980s, the floodgates opened and we added...

- Keyboarding and computer education
- Global education
- Ethnic education
- Multicultural/non-sexist education
- English-as-a second language, bilingual ed.
- Teen pregnancy awareness
- Hispanic heritage education
- Early childhood education
- Jump Start, Early Start, Even Start and Prime Start
- Full day kindergarten
- Pre-school programs for kids at risk
- After school programs for kids of working parents
- Alternative education in all its forms
- Stranger/danger education
- Sexual abuse prevention education
- Health and psychological services expanded
- Child abuse monitoring became a legal requirement for all teachers

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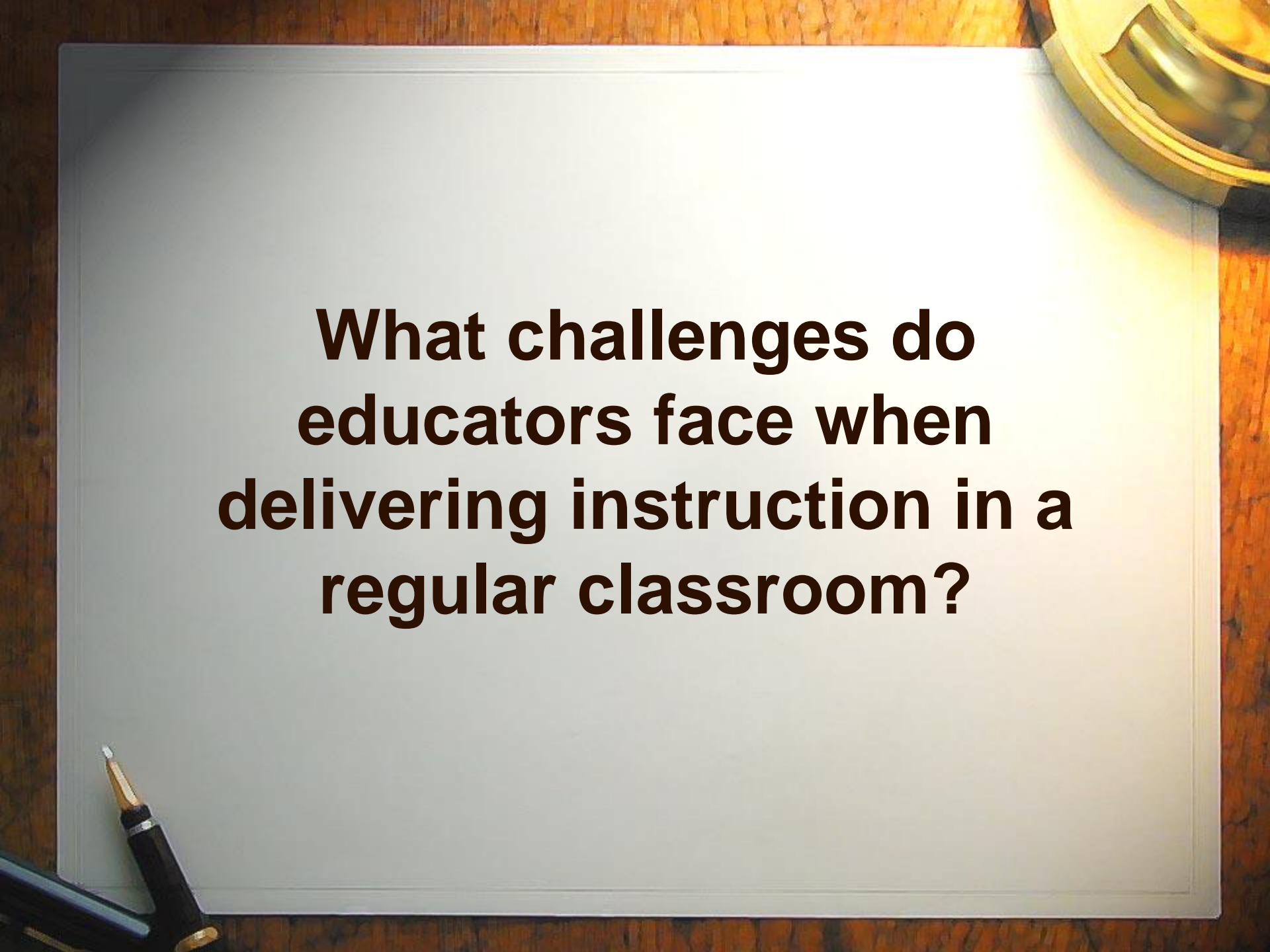
- Conflict resolution and peer mediation
- HIV/AIDS education
- CPR training
- Death education
- Expanded computer and Internet ed.
- Inclusion
- Tech Prep and School to Work programs
- Gang education
- Bus safety, bicycle safety, gun safety and water safety education

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001



**In the first years of the 21st
Century, we have superimposed
upon everything else....**

- A layer of high-stakes, standardized tests

A top-down view of a wooden desk with a warm, grainy texture. A white sheet of paper is centered on the desk. In the bottom-left corner, a black fountain pen with gold-colored accents is partially visible. In the top-right corner, a portion of a brass-colored object, possibly a paperweight or a desk ornament, is visible. The lighting is soft, coming from the top right, casting a gentle glow on the paper and desk.

**What challenges do
educators face when
delivering instruction in a
regular classroom?**

Differentiated Instruction requires...

- Maintaining the same standard for all students
- Beginning instruction at current performance level
- Providing instructional activities that meet interest level

Differentiated Instruction requires...

- Providing students with challenging material
- On going assessment
- Adjustment to instruction
- Respectful work of all learners

Differentiated Instruction requires...

- Time
- Teacher's role to become coach-like

Differentiated Instruction provides students the option to:

- Take in information
- Make sense of ideas
- Demonstrate abilities
- Is valuable at every level and subject area
- Helps students become successful learners
- Stretches students in the learning process

Differentiate... *What?*

- Instructional Activities
 - *The How*
- Products or Performance Tasks
 - *Demonstration*
- Content
 - *The What*

Differentiate... *Why?*

- Maximize student achievement in mixed ability classrooms
- Match instruction with student's current level of performance on selected content
- Match instruction with student's learning profiles/interests

Differentiate...*How?*

- Assess, assess, assess
- Determine where you want students to be in relation to the chosen standard(s) or lesson objective
- Create the assessment
- Create the instructional activity/varied tasks and activities

Differentiate... *Who?*

- Levels of learners
 - Concrete
 - Grade level
 - Advanced

Grade Level Learners

- Some concrete information provided
- Incorporate some abstraction

Advanced Level Learners

- Tasks have many steps with minimal structure
- Students work on an abstract level

Steps to Differentiated Instruction

- Determine concept or skill
- Outline the activity
- Rank the complexity of the activity
- Identify type of student who would best learn from the activity
- Adjust activity for other learners

Strategies for Differentiation

Helping students get it!

Strategies

- Teacher provides note-taking guide
- Teacher presents information for ten minutes - students take notes using prompts on guide
- Teacher stops for 2 minutes (wait time) - pairs of students share notes
- Teacher processes lesson, correcting misconceptions at end of lesson

More ways to help students get it!

Strategies for before, during, after

Before instruction

- Assess prior knowledge
- Performance tasks
- Team building

During instruction

- Develop competencies (with the ability to perform tasks, solve problems, express self)
- Gain new information

After instruction

- Recall what they have learned
- Assess what they now know and what they now can do
- Consider what they will do with what they have learned